Tafsir Ibn Kathir

ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لاَ رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ

This is the Book; in it is guidance sure, without doubt, to those who fear Allah

Al-Qari`ah

Revealed in Makkah

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَـنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

الْقَارِعَةُ

101:1 Al-Qari`ah.

مَا الْقَارِعَةُ

101:2 What is Al-Qari`ah?

وَمَآ أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْقَارِعَةُ

101:3 And what will make you know what Al-Qari`ah is?

يَوْمَ يَكُونُ النَّاسُ كَالْفَرَاشِ الْمَبْثُوثِ

101:4 It is a Day whereon mankind will be like moths scattered about.

وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ الْمَنفُوشِ

101:5 And the mountains will be like wool, carded.

فَأَمَّا مَن ثَقُلَتْ مَوَزِينُهُ

101:6 Then as for him whose Balance will be heavy,

فَهُوَ فِى عِيشَةٍ رَّاضِيَةٍ

101:7 He will live a pleasant life.

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَزِينُهُ

101:8 But as for him whose Balance will be light,

فَأُمُّهُ هَاوِيَةٌ

101:9 His mother will be Hawiyah.

وَمَآ أَدْرَاكَ مَا هِيَهْ

101:10 And what will make you know what it is?

نَارٌ حَامِيَةٌ

101:11 A fire Hamiyah!

Allah says:

الْقَارِعَةُ (١)

مَا الْقَارِعَةُ (٢)

Al-Qari`ah.

What is **Al-Qari`ah**?

Al-Qari`ah is one of the names of the Day of Judgement, like **Al-Haqqah, At-Tammah, As-Sakhkhah, Al-Ghashiyah** and other names.

Then Allah intensifies concern and fright for it by saying,

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا الْقَارِعَةُ (٣)

And what will make you know what **Al-Qariah** is?

Then He explains this by saying,

يَوْمَ يَكُونُ النَّاسُ كَالْفَرَاشِ الْمَبْثُوثِ (٤)

It is a Day whereon mankind will be like moths scattered about.

meaning, in their scattering, their dividing, their coming and their going, all due to being bewildered at what is happening to them, they will be like scattered moths.

This is like Allah's statement,

كَأَنَّهُمْ جَرَادٌ مُّنتَشِرٌ

As if they were locusts spread abroad. (54:7)

Allah said,

وَتَكُونُ الْجِبَالُ كَالْعِهْنِ الْمَنفُوشِ (٥)

And the mountains will be like wool, carded.

meaning, they will become like carded wool that has began to wear out (fade away) and be torn apart.

Mujahid, Ikrimah, Sa`id bin Jubayr, Al-Hasan, Qatadah, Ata' Al-Khurasani, Ad-Dahhak and As-Suddi have all said, **كَالْعِهْنِ** (like wool **(`Ihn)**. "Woolen.''

Then Allah informs about the results received by those who performed the deeds, and the honor and disgrace they will experience based upon their deeds. He says,

فَأَمَّا مَن ثَقُلَتْ مَوَازِينُهُ (٦)

Then as for him whose Balance will be heavy.

meaning, his good deeds are more than his bad deeds.

فَهُوَ فِي عِيشَةٍ رَّاضِيَةٍ (٧)

He will live a pleasant life.

meaning, in Paradise.

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَازِينُهُ (٨)

But as for him whose Balance will be light.

meaning, his bad deeds are more than his good deeds.

Then Allah says,

فَأُمُّهُ هَاوِيَةٌ (٩)

His mother will be **Hawiyah**.

It has been said that this means he will be falling and tumbling headfirst into the fire of Hell, and the expression `his mother' has been used to refer to his brain (as it is the mother of his head).

A statement similar to this has been reported from Ibn Abbas, Ikrimah, Abu Salih and Qatadah.

Qatadah said,

"He will fall into the Hellfire on his head.''

Abu Salih made a similar statement when he said,

"They will fall into the Fire on their heads.''

It has also been said that it means his mother that he will return to and end up with in the Hereafter will be **Hawiyah**, which is one of the names of the Hellfire.

Ibn Jarir said,

"**Al-Hawiyah** is only called his mother because he will have no other abode except for it.''

Ibn Zayd said,

"**Al-Hawiyah** is the Fire, and it will be his mother and his abode to which he will return, and where he will be settled.''

Then he recited the Ayah, وَمَأْوَاهُمُ النَّارُ (Their abode will be the Fire.) (3:151)

Ibn Abi Hatim said that it has been narrated from Qatadah that he said,

"It is the Fire, and it is their abode.''

Thus, Allah says in explaining the meaning of **Al-Hawiyah**,

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا هِيَهْ (١٠)

And what will make you know what it is.

Allah's statement:

نَارٌ حَامِيَةٌ (١١)

A fire **Hamiyah**!

meaning, extreme heat. It is a heat that is accompanied by a strong flame and fire.

It is narrated from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet said,

نَارُ بَنِي آدَمَ الَّتِي تُوقِدُونَ، جُزْءٌ مِنْ سَبْعِينَ جُزْءًا مِنْ نَارِ جَهَنَّم

> The fire of the Children of Adam that you all kindle is one part of the seventy parts of the fire of Hell.

They (the Companions) said, "O Messenger of Allah! Isn't it sufficient''

He replied,

إِنَّهَا فُضِّلَتْ عَلَيْهَا بِتِسْعَةٍ وَسِتِّينَ جُزْءًا

> It is more than it by sixty-nine times.

This has been recorded by Al-Bukhari and Muslim. In some of the wordings he stated,

إِنَّهَا فُضِّلَتْ عَلَيْهَا بِتِسْعَةٍ وَسِتِّينَ جُزْءًا، كُلُّهُنَّ مِثْلُ حَرِّهَا

> It is more than it by sixty-nine times, each of them is like the heat of it.

It has been narrated in a Hadith that Imam Ahmad recorded from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet said,

إِنَّ أَهْوَنَ أَهْلِ النَّارِ عَذَابًا مَنْ لَهُ نَعْلَانِ، يَغْلِي مِنْهُمَا دِمَاغُه

> Verily, the person who will receive the lightest torment of the people of the Hellfire will be a man who will have two sandals that will cause his brain to boil.'

It has been confirmed in the Two Sahihs that the Messenger of Allah said,

اشْتَكَتِ النَّارُ إِلَى رَبِّهَا فَقَالَتْ:

يَا رَبِّ أَكَلَ بَعْضِي بَعْضًا،
فَأَذِنَ لَهَا بِنَفَسَيْنِ:
نَفَسٍ فِي الشِّتَاءِ، وَنَفَسٍ فِي الصَّيْفِ،
فَأَشَدُّ مَا تَجِدُونَ فِي الشِّتَاءِ مِنْ بَرْدِهَا، وَأَشَدُّ مَا تَجِدُونَ فِي الصَّيْفِ مِنْ حَرِّهَا

The Hellfire complained to its Lord and said,

"O Lord! Some parts of me devour other parts of me.''

So He (Allah) permitted it to take two breaths:

- one breath in the winter and
- one breath in the summer.

Thus, the most severe cold that you experience in the winter is from its cold, and the most severe heat that you experience in the summer is from its heat.

In the Two Sahihs it is recorded that he said,

إِذَا اشْتَدَّ الْحَرُّ فَأَبْرِدُوا عَنِ الصَّلَاةِ، فَإِنَّ شِدَّةَ الْحَرِّ مِنْ فَيْحِ جَهَنَّم

When the heat becomes intense pray the prayer when it cools down, for indeed the intense heat is from the breath of Hell.

This is the end of the Tafsir of Surah **Al-Qari`ah**, and all praise and thanks are due to Allah.